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South Korea: President Pak Chong-hui is expected to press for new US commitments to Seoul in his meetings with US presidential envoy Cyrus R. Vance.

Pak primarily seeks to have the Mutual Defense Treaty amended to guarantee immediate US assistance in the event of all-out North Korean attack and to assure a similar response to such Communist intrusions as last month's presidential assassination attempt. Seoul believes the treaty's stipulation that "constitutional processes" must precede US intervention might delay or even bar timely US assistance.

Pak probably would also like to gain--but not necessarily use--the power to withdraw South Korean troops from UN command operational control, to recall his troops from Vietnam, and to mount attacks on North Korea. Some of these points, which are reported to have been considered in a recent National Assembly session, may come up in the course of Pak's negotiations.

In the past two days the government has stressed the "military aid is not enough" theme through the press and has permitted several small protest rallies and demonstrations to take place.


NOTE

India: Prime Minister Indira Gandhi may move to impose direct rule from New Delhi on volatile West Bengal to avoid a scheduled confidence vote in the state assembly. The Congress Party dominates the state coalition government, but a growing dissident group, with which Mrs. Gandhi shares dislike for West Bengal party boss Atulya Ghosh, could undermine the coalition's narrow majority. Although New Delhi has long sought to avoid direct rule in West Bengal, Mrs. Gandhi may prefer it to either a less satisfactory new non-Communist coalition or a return to power of the Communist-dominated United Front.

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